Union Calendar No. 134

109TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 1065

[Report No. 109-209, Parts I and II]

To establish the United States Boxing Commission to protect the general welfare of boxers and to ensure fairness in the sport of professional boxing.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 2, 2005

Mr. Stearns (for himself, Ms. Schakowsky, and Mr. Brown of Ohio) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

July 28, 2005

Reported from the Committee on Energy and Commerce with an amendment [Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

July 28, 2005

Referral to the Committee on Education and the Workforce extended for a period ending not later than September 30, 2005

July 28, 2005

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period ending not later than September 30, 2005 for consideration of such provisions of the bill and the amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(1), rule X

September 30, 2005

Reported from the Committee on the Judiciary with an amendment [Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in boldface roman]

September 30, 2005

Committee on Education and the Workforce discharged; committed to the

Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 2, 2005]

A BILL

To establish the United States Boxing Commission to protect the general welfare of boxers and to ensure fairness in the sport of professional boxing.

1	Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2	tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3	SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
4	This Act may be cited as the "United States Boxing
5	Commission Act".
6	SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.
7	As used in this Act, the following definitions apply:
8	(1) Commission.—The term "Commission"
9	means the United States Boxing Commission estab-
10	lished under section 3.
11	(2) Boxer.—The term "boxer" means an indi-
12	vidual who fights in a professional boxing match.
13	(3) Boxing commission.—The term 'boxing
14	commission" means an entity authorized under State
15	or tribal law to regulate professional boxing matches.
16	(4) Indian Lands.—The term "Indian lands"
17	has the meanings given that terms by paragraphs (4)

- 1 of section 4 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 2 U.S.C. 2703).
 - (5) JUDGE.—The term "judge" means an official who scores a boxing match to determine the winner.
 - (6) Manager.—The term "manager" means a person other than a promoter who, under contract, agreement, or other arrangement with a boxer, undertakes to control or administer, directly or indirectly, a boxing-related matter on behalf of that boxer, including a person who is a booking agent for a boxer.
 - (7) Matchmaker.—The term "matchmaker" means a person that proposes, selects, and arranges for boxers to participate in a professional boxing match. Such term does not include a hotel, casino, resort, or other commercial establishment hosting or sponsoring a professional boxing match, or a provider of cable, satellite, or network television programming, unless—
 - (A) the hotel, casino, resort, or other commercial establishment, or provider of cable, satellite, or network television programming is primarily responsible for proposing, selecting, and arranging for boxers to participate in the professional boxing match; and

1	(B) there is no other person primarily re-
2	sponsible for proposing, selecting, and arranging
3	for boxers to participate in the match.
4	(8) Referee.—The term "referee" means the of-
5	ficial inside the boxing ring who supervises the boxing
6	match.
7	(9) Professional boxing match.—The term
8	"professional boxing match" means a boxing contest
9	held in the United States between individuals for fi-
10	nancial compensation. Such term does not include a
11	boxing contest that is regulated by a duly recognized
12	amateur sports organization, as approved by the
13	Commission.
14	(10) Promoter.—The term "promoter"—
15	(A) means the person primarily responsible
16	for organizing, promoting, and producing a pro-
17	fessional boxing match; but
18	(B) does not include a hotel, casino, resort,
19	or other commercial establishment hosting or
20	sponsoring a professional boxing match, or a
21	provider of cable, satellite, or network television
22	programming, unless—
23	(i) the hotel, casino, resort, or other
24	commercial establishment, or provider of
25	cable, satellite, or network television pro-

1	gramming is primarily responsible for or-
2	ganizing, promoting, and producing the
3	match; and
4	(ii) there is no other person primarily
5	responsible for organizing, promoting, and
6	producing the match.
7	(11) State.—The term "State" means each of
8	the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia,
9	and any territory or possession of the United States,
10	including the Virgin Islands.
11	(12) Sanctioning organization.—The term
12	"sanctioning organization" means an organization,
13	other than a boxing commission, that sanctions pro-
14	fessional boxing matches, ranks professional boxers, or
15	charges a sanctioning fee for professional boxing
16	matches in the United States—
17	(A) between boxers who are residents of dif-
18	ferent States; or
19	(B) that are advertised, otherwise promoted,
20	or broadcast (including closed circuit television)
21	in interstate commerce.
22	(13) Suspension.—The term "suspension" in-
23	cludes within its meaning the temporary revocation of
24	a boxing license.

1	(14) Tribal organization.—The term "tribal
2	organization" has the same meaning as in section
3	4(l) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education
4	Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. $450b(l)$).
5	SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF UNITED STATES BOXING COM-
6	MISSION.
7	(a) In General.—The United States Boxing Commis-
8	sion is established as a commission within the Department
9	of Commerce.
10	(b) Members.—
11	(1) In general.—The Commission shall consist
12	of 3 members appointed by the President, by and
13	with the advice and consent of the Senate.
14	(2) Qualifications.—No member of the Com-
15	mission may, while serving as a member of the Com-
16	mission—
17	(A) be engaged as a professional boxer, box-
18	ing promoter, agent, fight manager, matchmaker,
19	referee, judge, or in any other capacity in the
20	conduct of the business of professional boxing;
21	(B) have any pecuniary interest in the
22	earnings of any boxer or the proceeds or outcome
23	of any boxing match; or
24	(C) serve as a member of a boxing commis-
25	sion

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1	(3) Bipartisan membership.—Not more than 2
2	members of the Commission may be members of the
3	same political party.
4	(4) Geographic Balance.—Not more than 2
5	members of the Commission may be residents of the
6	same geographic region of the United States when ap-
7	pointed to the Commission. For purposes of the pre-
8	ceding sentence, the area of the United States east of
9	the Mississippi River is a geographic region, and the
10	area of the United States west of the Mississippi
11	River is a geographic region.
12	(5) TERMS.—
13	(A) In general.—The term of a member of
14	the Commission shall be 3 years. No member of
15	the Commission shall serve more than 2 terms.
16	(B) MIDTERM VACANCIES.—A member of
17	the Commission appointed to fill a vacancy in
18	the Commission occurring before the expiration
19	of the term for which the member's predecessor
20	was appointed shall be appointed for the remain-
21	der of that unexpired term.
22	(C) Continuation pending replace-

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1 (6) Removal.—A member of the Commission 2 may be removed by the President only for cause. (c) Executive Director.— 3 4 (1) In general.—The Commission shall employ 5 an Executive Director to perform the administrative 6 functions of the Commission under this Act, and such 7 other functions and duties of the Commission as the 8 Commission shall specify. 9 (2) Discharge of functions.—Subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Commission 10 11 the Executive Director shall carry out the functions 12 and duties of the Commission under this Act. 13 (d) General Counsel.—The Commission shall employ a General Counsel to provide legal counsel and advice 14 to the Executive Director and the Commission in the performance of its functions under this Act, and to carry out such other functions and duties as the Commission shall 18 specify. 19 (e) Staff.—The Commission shall employ such additional staff as the Commission considers appropriate to as-20 21 sist the Executive Director and the General Counsel in carrying out the functions and duties of the Commission under 23 this Act. 24 (f) Meetings.—The Commission shall hold its first

meeting no later than 30 days after all members shall have

been appointed, and shall meet thereafter not less frequently than once every 60 days. 3 (q) Compensation.— 4 (1) Members of commission.— (A) In General.—Each member of the 5 6 Commission shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of 7 8 basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive 9 Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) 10 11 during which such member is engaged in the per-12 formance of the duties of the Commission. 13 (B) Travel expenses.—The members of 14 the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, 15 including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at 16 rates authorized for employees of agencies under 17 subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United 18 States Code, while away from their homes or reg-19 ular places of business in the performance of 20 services for the Commission. 21 Executive director and staff.—The 22 Commission shall fix the compensation of the Execu-23 tive Director, the General Counsel, and other per-24 sonnel of the Commission. The rate of pay for the Ex-

ecutive Director, the General Counsel, and other per-

1	sonnel may not exceed the rate payable for level V of
2	the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5,
3	United States Code.
4	SEC. 4. FUNCTIONS.
5	(a) General Functions.—The general functions of
6	the Commission are—
7	(1) to protect the general interests of boxers con-
8	sistent with the provisions of this Act;
9	(2) to ensure uniformity, fairness, and integrity
10	in professional boxing; and
11	(3) except as otherwise determined by the Com-
12	mission, oversee all professional boxing matches in the
13	United States.
14	(b) Initial Rulemaking.—Not later than 180 days
15	after the date on which the Commission shall hold its first
16	meeting, the Commission shall, by rule promulgate uniform
17	standards for professional boxing in consultation with the
18	Association of Boxing Commissions.
19	(c) Additional Functions.—In addition to its gen-
20	eral functions under subsection (a), the Commission shall—
21	(1) work with the boxing commissions of the sev-
22	eral States and tribal organizations to improve the
23	status and standards of professional boxing in the
24	United States:

1	(2) ensure, in cooperation with the Attorney
2	General (who shall represent the Commission in any
3	judicial proceeding under this Act), the chief law en-
4	forcement officer of the several States, and other ap-
5	propriate officers and agencies of Federal, State, and
6	local government, that Federal and State laws appli-
7	cable to professional boxing matches in the United
8	States are vigorously, effectively, and fairly enforced,
9	(3) review State boxing commission regulations
10	for professional boxing and provide assistance to such
11	authorities in meeting minimum standards prescribed
12	by the Commission under this Act;
13	(4) if the Commission determines appropriate,
14	publish a newspaper, magazine, or other publication
15	and establish and maintain an Internet website con-
16	sistent with the provisions of this Act; and
17	(5) promulgate rules, regulations, and guidance,
18	and take any other action necessary and proper to ac-
19	complish the purposes of, and consistent with, the
20	provisions of this Act.
21	(d) Prohibitions.—The Commission may not—
22	(1) promote boxing events or rank professional
23	boxers; or
24	(2) provide technical assistance to or authorize

the use of the name of the Commission by, boxing

1	commissions that do not comply with requirements of
2	the Commission.
3	SEC. 5. LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF BOXING PER-
4	SONNEL.
5	(a) Licensing.—
6	(1) Requirement for License.—Beginning 1
7	year after the date of enactment of this Act, no person
8	may compete in a professional boxing match or serve
9	as a boxing manager, boxing promoter, matchmaker,
10	judge, referee, or sanctioning organization for a pro-
11	fessional boxing match except as provided in a license
12	granted to that person under this subsection.
13	(2) Application and term.—
14	(A) In general.—The Commission shall—
15	(i) establish application procedures,
16	forms, and fees for licenses granted under
17	this section;
18	(ii) establish and publish appropriate
19	standards for such licenses;
20	(iii) issue a license to any person who,
21	as determined by the Commission, meets the
22	standards established by the Commission
23	under this Act; and

1	(iv) begin issuing such licenses not
2	later than 270 days after the date on which
3	Commission holds its first meeting.
4	(B) Duration.—A license issued under this
5	section shall be for a renewable—
6	(i) 4-year term for a boxer; and
7	(ii) 2-year term for any other person.
8	(C) Procedure.—The Commission may
9	issue a license under this paragraph through
10	boxing commissions or in a manner determined
11	by the Commission.
12	(b) Licensing Fees.—
13	(1) Authority.—The Commission may pre-
14	scribe and charge reasonable fees for the licensing of
15	persons under this Act. The Commission may set,
16	charge, and adjust varying fees on the basis of classi-
17	fications of persons, functions, and events determined
18	appropriate by the Commission.
19	(2) Limitations.—In setting and charging fees
20	under paragraph (1), the Commission shall ensure
21	that, to the maximum extent practicable—
22	(A) club boxing is not adversely effected;
23	(B) sanctioning organizations and pro-
24	moters pay comparatively the largest portion of
25	the fees; and

1	(C) boxers pay as small a portion of the fees
2	as is possible.
3	SEC. 6. NATIONAL REGISTRY OF BOXING PERSONNEL.
4	The Commission shall establish and maintain (or au-
5	thorize a third party to establish and maintain) a unified
6	national computerized registry for the collection, storage,
7	and retrieval of such information as the Commission shall
8	prescribe by rule related to the performance of its duties.
9	SEC. 7. CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS.
10	The Commission shall consult with the Association of
11	Boxing Commissions—
12	(1) before prescribing any regulation or estab-
13	lishing any standard under the provisions of this Act;
14	and
15	(2) not less than once each year regarding mat-
16	ters relating to professional boxing.
17	SEC. 8. MISCONDUCT.
18	(a) Suspension and Revocation of License or
19	REGISTRATION.—
20	(1) AUTHORITY.—The Commission may, after
21	notice and opportunity for a hearing, suspend or re-
22	voke any license issued under this Act if the Commis-
23	sion—

1	(A) finds that the license holder has violated
2	any provision of this Act or a standard pre-
3	scribed under this Act;
4	(B) reasonably believes that a standard pre-
5	scribed by the Commission under this Act is not
6	being met, or that bribery, collusion, intentional
7	losing, racketeering, extortion, or the use of un-
8	lawful threats, coercion, or intimidation have oc-
9	curred in connection with a license; or
10	(C) finds that the suspension or revocation
11	is in the public interest.
12	(2) Period of suspension of a
13	license under this section shall be effective for a period
14	determined appropriate by the Commission.
15	(3) Period of Revocation.—In the case of a
16	revocation of the license of a boxer, the revocation
17	shall be for a period of not less than 1 year.
18	(b) Investigations and Injunctions.—
19	(1) Authority.—The Commission may—
20	(A) conduct any investigation that it con-
21	siders necessary to determine whether any person
22	has violated, or is about to violate, any provision
23	of this Act or any regulation prescribed under
24	this Act ;

1	(B) require or permit any person to file
2	with it a statement in writing, under oath or
3	otherwise as the Commission shall determine, as
4	to all the facts and circumstances concerning the
5	matter to be investigated;
6	(C) in its discretion, publish information
7	concerning any violations; and
8	(D) investigate any facts, conditions, prac-
9	tices, or matters to aid in the enforcement of the
10	provisions of this Act, in the prescribing of regu-
11	lations under this Act, or in securing informa-
12	tion to serve as a basis for recommending legisla-
13	tion concerning the matters to which this Act re-
14	lates.
15	(2) Powers.—
16	(A) In general.—For the purpose of any
17	investigation under paragraph (1) or any other
18	proceeding under this Act—
19	(i) any officer designated by the Com-
20	mission may administer oaths and affirma-
21	tions, subpoena or otherwise compel the at-
22	tendance of witnesses, take evidence, and re-
23	quire the production of any books, papers,
24	correspondence, memoranda, or other

1	records	the	Commission	considers	relevant
2	or mate	rial	to the inquiry	y; and	

- (ii) the provisions of sections 6002 and 6004 of title 18, United States Code, shall apply.
- (B) WITNESSES AND EVIDENCE.—The attendance of witnesses and the production of any documents under subparagraph (A) may be required from any place in the United States, including Indian land, at any designated place of hearing.

(3) Enforcement of subpoenas.—

(A) CIVIL ACTION.—In case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena issued to, any person, the Commission may file an action in any district court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which an investigation or proceeding is carried out, or where that person resides or carries on business, to enforce the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books, papers, correspondence, memorandums, and other records. The court may issue an order requiring the person to appear before the Commission to produce records, if so ordered,

- or to give testimony concerning the matter under investigation or in question.
 - (B) Failure to obey an order issued by a court under subparagraph (A) may be punished as contempt of that court.
 - (C) PROCESS.—All process in any contempt case under subparagraph (A) may be served in the judicial district in which the person is an inhabitant or in which the person may be found.
 - (4) EVIDENCE OF CRIMINAL MISCONDUCT.—No person may be excused from attending and testifying or from producing books, papers, contracts, agreements, and other records and documents before the Commission, in obedience to the subpoena of the Commission, or in any cause or proceeding instituted by the Commission, on the ground that the testimony or evidence, documentary or otherwise, required of that person may tend to incriminate the person or subject the person to a penalty or forfeiture.
 - (5) Injunctive relief.—If the Commission or the Executive Director determines that any person is engaged or about to engage in any act or practice that constitutes a violation of any provision of this Act, or of any regulation prescribed under this Act,

- 1 the Commission or the Executive Director may bring 2 an action in the appropriate district court of the United States, the United States District Court for 3 the District of Columbia, or the United States courts of any territory or other place subject to the jurisdic-5 6 tion of the United States, to enjoin the act or prac-7 tice, and upon a proper showing, the court shall grant 8 without bond a permanent or temporary injunction 9 or restraining order.
 - (6) Mandamus.—Upon application of the Commission, the district courts of the United States, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, and the United States courts of any territory or other place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, shall have jurisdiction to issue writs of mandamus commanding any person to comply with the provisions of this Act or any order of the Commission.

 (c) Intervention in Civil Actions.—
 - (1) In General.—The Commission, on behalf of the public interest, may intervene of right as provided under rule 24(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in any civil action relating to professional boxing filed in a district court of the United States.
 - (2) AMICUS FILING.—The Commission may file a brief in any action filed in a court of the United

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- 1 States on behalf of the public interest in any case re-
- 2 lating to professional boxing.
- 3 (d) Hearings by Commission.—Hearings conducted
- 4 by the Commission under this Act shall be public and may
- 5 be held before any officer of the Commission. The Commis-
- 6 sion shall keep appropriate records of the hearings.

7 SEC. 9. NONINTERFERENCE WITH BOXING COMMISSIONS.

- 8 (a) Noninterference.—Nothing in this Act pro-
- 9 hibits any boxing commission from exercising any of its
- 10 powers, duties, or functions with respect to the regulation
- 11 or supervision of professional boxing or professional boxing
- 12 matches to the extent not inconsistent with the provisions
- 13 of this Act.
- 14 (b) Minimum Standards.—Nothing in this Act pro-
- 15 hibits any boxing commission from enforcing local stand-
- 16 ards or requirements that exceed the minimum standards
- 17 or requirements promulgated by the Commission under this
- 18 *Act*.

19 SEC. 10. ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER AGENCIES.

- 20 Any employee of any executive department, agency,
- 21 bureau, board, commission, office, independent establish-
- 22 ment, or instrumentality may be detailed to the Commis-
- 23 sion, upon the request of the Commission, on a reimbursable
- 24 or nonreimbursable basis, with the consent of the appro-
- 25 priate authority having jurisdiction over the employee.

1	While so detailed, an employee shall continue to receive the
2	compensation provided pursuant to law for the employee's
3	regular position of employment and shall retain, without
4	interruption, the rights and privileges of that employment.
5	SEC. 11. STUDIES.
6	(a) Health and Safety Study.—
7	(1) Study.—The Commission shall conduct a
8	study on the health and safety aspects of boxing, in-
9	cluding an examination of—
10	(A) the risks or serious injury and the na-
11	ture of potential injuries, including risks par-
12	ticular to boxers of each sex;
13	(B) the long term effect of boxing on the
14	health of boxers;
15	(C) the availability of health insurance for
16	boxers;
17	(D) the extent to which differences in equip-
18	ment effect the risks of potential injury; and
19	(E) the effectiveness of safety standards and
20	regulations.
21	(2) Report.—Not later than 1 year after the
22	date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall
23	submit a report on the study required by this section
24	to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
25	portation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy

and Commerce of the House of Representatives, including recommendations to improve the health and safety aspects of boxing.

(b) Study on the Definition of Promoter.—

- (1) STUDY.—The United States Boxing Commission shall conduct a study on how the term "promoter" should be defined for purposes of the United States Boxing Commission Act.
- (2) Hearings.—As part of that study, the Commission shall hold hearings and solicit testimony at those hearings from boxers, managers, promoters, premium, cable, and satellite program service providers, hotels, casinos, resorts, and other commercial establishments that host or sponsor professional boxing matches, and other interested parties with respect to the definition of that term as it is used in the United States Boxing Commission Act.
- (3) Report.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on the study conducted under subsection (a). The report shall—

1	(A) set forth a proposed definition of the
2	term "promoter" for purposes of the United
3	States Boxing Commission Act; and
4	(B) describe the findings, conclusions, and
5	rationale of the Commission for the proposed def-
6	inition, together with any recommendations of
7	the Commission, based on the study.
8	SEC. 12. REPORTS.
9	(a) Annual Report.—Not later than 2 years after
10	the date of enactment of this Act, and each year thereafter,
11	the Commission shall submit a report on its activities to
12	the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
13	of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce
14	of the House of Representatives. The annual report shall
15	include—
16	(1) a detailed discussion of the activities of the
17	Commission for the year covered by the report;
18	(2) an overview of the licensing and enforcement
19	activities of the State and tribal organization boxing
20	commissions; and
21	(3) recommendations regarding additional per-
22	sons or entities within the sport of boxing over whom
23	to extend the licensing requirement established by this
24	Act.

1	(b) Public Report.—The Commission shall annually
2	issue and publicize a report of the Commission on the
3	progress made at Federal and State levels and on Indian
4	lands in the reform of professional boxing, which shall in-
5	clude comments on issues of continuing concern to the Com-
6	mission.
7	SEC. 13. SUNSET PROVISION.
8	This Act shall cease to have effect 12 years after the
9	date of enactment of this Act.
10	SEC. 14. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
11	(a) In General.—There are authorized to be appro-
12	priated for the Commission for each fiscal year such sums
13	as may be necessary for the Commission to perform its func-
14	tions for that fiscal year.
15	(b) Receipts Credited as Offsetting Collec-
16	TIONS.—Notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United
17	States Code, any fee collected under this Act—
18	(1) shall be credited as offsetting collections to
19	the account that finances the activities and services
20	for which the fee is imposed;
21	(2) shall be available for expenditure only to pay
22	the costs of activities and services for which the fee is
23	imposed; and
24	(3) shall remain available until expended.

1	CECOTON 1	SHORT TITLE.
	SECTION	SHORT TITLE

- 2 This Act may be cited as the "United
- 3 States Boxing Commission Act".
- 4 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.
- As used in this Act, the following defini-6 tions apply:
- 7 (1) COMMISSION.—The term "Commis-8 sion" means the United States Boxing 9 Commission established under section 3.
- 10 (2) BOXER.—The term "boxer" means 11 an individual who fights in a professional 12 boxing match.
- 13 (3) BOXING COMMISSION.—The term 14 "boxing commission" means an entity au-15 thorized under State or tribal law to reg-16 ulate professional boxing matches.
- 17 (4) INDIAN LANDS.—The term "Indian lands" has the meanings given that terms by paragraphs (4) of section 4 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2703).
- 22 **(5)** JUDGE.—The term "judge" means 23 **an official who scores a boxing match to** 24 **determine the winner.**
- 25 **(6) MANAGER.—The term "manager"** 26 **means a person other than a promoter**

- who, under contract, agreement, or other arrangement with a boxer, undertakes to control or administer, directly or indirectly, a boxing-related matter on behalf of that boxer, including a person who is a booking agent for a boxer.
 - (7) MATCHMAKER.—The term "matchmaker" means a person that proposes, selects, and arranges for boxers to participate in a professional boxing match. Such term does not include a hotel, casino, resort, or other commercial establishment hosting or sponsoring a professional boxing match, or a provider of cable, satellite, or network television programming, unless—
 - (A) the hotel, casino, resort, or other commercial establishment, or provider of cable, satellite, or network television programming is primarily responsible for proposing, selecting, and arranging for boxers to participate in the professional boxing match; and

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1	(B) there is no other person pri-
2	marily responsible for proposing, se-
3	lecting, and arranging for boxers to
4	participate in the match.
5	(8) REFEREE.—The term "referee"
6	means the official inside the boxing ring
7	who supervises the boxing match.
8	(9) Professional boxing match.—The
9	term "professional boxing match" means
10	a boxing contest held in the United
11	States between individuals for financial
12	compensation. Such term does not in-
13	clude a boxing contest that is regulated
14	by a duly recognized amateur sports or-
15	ganization, as approved by the Commis-
16	sion.
17	(10) PROMOTER.—The term "pro-
18	moter"—
19	(A) means the person primarily
20	responsible for organizing, pro-
21	moting, and producing a professional
22	boxing match; but
23	(B) does not include a hotel, ca-
24	sino, resort, or other commercial es-

tablishment hosting or sponsoring a

1	professional boxing match, or a pro-
2	vider of cable, satellite, or network
3	television programming, unless—
4	(i) the hotel, casino, resort, or
5	other commercial establishment,
6	or provider of cable, satellite, or
7	network television programming
8	is primarily responsible for orga-
9	nizing, promoting, and producing
10	the match; and
11	(ii) there is no other person
12	primarily responsible for orga-
13	nizing, promoting, and producing
14	the match.
15	(11) STATE.—The term "State" means
16	each of the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the
17	District of Columbia, and any territory or
18	possession of the United States, including
19	the Virgin Islands.
20	(12) SANCTIONING ORGANIZATION.—The
21	term "sanctioning organization" means
22	an organization, other than a boxing
23	commission, that sanctions professional
24	boxing matches, ranks professional box-

ers, or charges a sanctioning fee for pro-

1	fessional boxing matches in the United
2	States—
3	(A) between boxers who are resi-
4	dents of different States; or
5	(B) that are advertised, otherwise
6	promoted, or broadcast (including
7	closed circuit television) in interstate
8	commerce.
9	(13) Suspension.—The term "suspen-
10	sion" includes within its meaning the
11	temporary revocation of a boxing license.
12	(14) TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The term
13	"tribal organization" has the same mean-
14	ing as in section 4(l) of the Indian Self-
15	Determination and Education Assistance
16	Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(l)).
17	SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF UNITED STATES BOXING COM-
18	MISSION.
19	(a) In GENERAL.—The United States Box-
20	ing Commission is established as a commis-
21	sion within the Department of Commerce.
22	(b) MEMBERS.—
23	(1) In GENERAL.—The Commission
24	shall consist of 3 members appointed by

1	the President, by and with the advice and
2	consent of the Senate.
3	(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—No member of
4	the Commission may, while serving as a
5	member of the Commission—
6	(A) be engaged as a professional
7	boxer, boxing promoter, agent, fight
8	manager, matchmaker, referee, judge,
9	or in any other capacity in the con-
10	duct of the business of professional
11	boxing;
12	(B) have any pecuniary interest in
13	the earnings of any boxer or the pro-
14	ceeds or outcome of any boxing
15	match; or
16	(C) serve as a member of a boxing
17	commission.
18	(3) BIPARTISAN MEMBERSHIP.—Not
19	more than 2 members of the Commission
20	may be members of the same political
21	party.
22	(4) GEOGRAPHIC BALANCE.—Not more
23	than 2 members of the Commission may
24	he residents of the same geographic re-

gion of the United States when appointed

to the Commission. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the area of the United States east of the Mississippi River is a geographic region, and the area of the United States west of the Mississippi River is a geographic region.

(5) TERMS.—

- (A) IN GENERAL.—The term of a member of the Commission shall be 3 years. No member of the Commission shall serve more than 2 terms.
- (B) MIDTERM VACANCIES.—A member of the Commission appointed to fill a vacancy in the Commission occurring before the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of that unexpired term.
- (C) CONTINUATION PENDING RE-PLACEMENT.—A member of the Commission may serve after the expiration of that member's term until a successor has taken office.

1 (6) REMOVAL.—A member of the Com-2 mission may be removed by the President 3 only for cause.

(c) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—

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- (1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall employ an Executive Director to perform the administrative functions of the Commission under this Act, and such other functions and duties of the Commission as the Commission shall specify.
- (2) DISCHARGE OF FUNCTIONS.—Subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Commission the Executive Director shall carry out the functions and duties of the Commission under this Act.
- (d) GENERAL COUNSEL.—The Commission shall employ a General Counsel to provide legal counsel and advice to the Executive Director and the Commission in the performance of its functions under this Act, and to carry out such other functions and duties as the Commission shall specify.
- 23 (e) STAFF.—The Commission shall employ 24 such additional staff as the Commission con-25 siders appropriate to assist the Executive Di-

- 1 rector and the General Counsel in carrying 2 out the functions and duties of the Commis-
- 3 sion under this Act.

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4 (f) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall hold 5 its first meeting no later than 30 days after all 6 members shall have been appointed, and shall 7 meet thereafter not less frequently than once 8 every 60 days.

(g) COMPENSATION.—

(1) Members of commission.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Each member of the Commission shall be compensated at a rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, for each day (including travel time) during which such member is engaged in the performance of the duties of the Commission.

(B) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—The members of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates

1	authorized for employees of agencies
2	under subchapter I of chapter 57 of
3	title 5, United States Code, while
4	away from their homes or regular
5	places of business in the performance
6	of services for the Commission.

- 7 (2) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF.— The Commission shall fix the compensa-8 9 tion of the Executive Director, the Gen-10 eral Counsel, and other personnel of the Commission. The rate of pay for the Exec-11 utive Director, the General Counsel, and 12 other personnel may not exceed the rate 13 payable for level V of the Executive 14 Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, 15 United States Code. 16
- 17 SEC. 4. FUNCTIONS.
- 18 **(a) GENERAL FUNCTIONS.—The general**19 **functions of the Commission are—**
- 20 (1) to protect the general interests of 21 boxers consistent with the provisions of 22 this Act;
- (2) to ensure uniformity, fairness, and
 integrity in professional boxing; and

- (3) except as otherwise determined by
 the Commission, oversee all professional
 boxing matches in the United States.
- 4 (b) INITIAL RULEMAKING.—Not later than
 5 180 days after the date on which the Commis6 sion shall hold its first meeting, the Commis7 sion shall, by rule promulgate uniform stand8 ards for professional boxing in consultation
 9 with the Association of Boxing Commissions.
- 10 (c) ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS.—In addition to 11 its general functions under subsection (a), the 12 Commission shall—
- 13 (1) work with the boxing commissions 14 of the several States and tribal organiza-15 tions to improve the status and standards 16 of professional boxing in the United 17 States;
 - (2) ensure, in cooperation with the Attorney General, or a designee of the Attorney General, (who shall represent the Commission in any judicial proceeding under this Act), the chief law enforcement officer of the several States, and other appropriate officers and agencies of Federal, State, and local government,

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- that Federal and State laws applicable to professional boxing matches in the United States are vigorously, effectively, and fairly enforced;
 - (3) review State boxing commission regulations for professional boxing and provide assistance to such authorities in meeting minimum standards prescribed by the Commission under this Act;
 - (4) if the Commission determines appropriate, publish a newspaper, magazine, or other publication and establish and maintain an Internet website consistent with the provisions of this Act; and
 - (5) promulgate rules, regulations, and guidance, and take any other action necessary and proper to accomplish the purposes of, and consistent with, the provisions of this Act.
- 21 (d) PROHIBITIONS.—The Commission may 22 not—
- 23 (1) promote boxing events or rank 24 professional boxers; or

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1	(2) provide technical assistance to, or
2	authorize the use of the name of the Com-
3	mission by, boxing commissions that do
4	not comply with requirements of the
5	Commission.
6	SEC. 5. LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF BOXING PER-
7	SONNEL.
8	(a) LICENSING.—
9	(1) REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSE.—Begin-
10	ning 1 year after the date of enactment of
11	this Act, no person may compete in a pro-
12	fessional boxing match or serve as a box-
13	ing manager, boxing promoter, match-
14	maker, judge, referee, or sanctioning or-
15	ganization for a professional boxing
16	match except as provided in a license
17	granted to that person under this sub-
18	section.
19	(2) APPLICATION AND TERM.—
20	(A) In general.—The Commission
21	shall—
22	(i) establish application proce-
23	dures, forms, and fees for licenses
24	granted under this section;

1	(ii) establish and publish ap-
2	propriate standards for such li-
3	censes;
4	(iii) issue a license to any per-
5	son who, as determined by the
6	Commission, meets the standards
7	established by the Commission
8	under this Act; and
9	(iv) begin issuing such li-
10	censes not later than 270 days
11	after the date on which Commis-
12	sion holds its first meeting.
13	(B) DURATION.—A license issued
14	under this section shall be for a re-
15	newable—
16	(i) 4-year term for a boxer;
17	and
18	(ii) 2-year term for any other
19	person.
20	(C) PROCEDURE.—The Commission
21	may issue a license under this para-
22	graph through boxing commissions or
23	in a manner determined by the Com-
24	mission.
25	(b) LICENSING FEES.—

1	(1) AUTHORITY.—The Commission may
2	prescribe and charge reasonable fees for
3	the licensing of persons under this Act.
4	The Commission may set, charge, and ad-
5	just varying fees on the basis of classi-
6	fications of persons, functions, and
7	events determined appropriate by the
8	Commission.
9	(2) LIMITATIONS.—In setting and
10	charging fees under paragraph (1), the
11	Commission shall ensure that, to the
12	maximum extent practicable—
13	(A) club boxing is not adversely
14	effected;
15	(B) sanctioning organizations and
16	promoters pay comparatively the
17	largest portion of the fees; and
18	(C) boxers pay as small a portion
19	of the fees as is possible.
20	SEC. 6. NATIONAL REGISTRY OF BOXING PERSONNEL.
21	The Commission shall establish and main-
22	tain (or authorize a third party to establish
23	and maintain) a unified national computer-
24	ized registry for the collection, storage, and

25 retrieval of such information as the Commis-

1	sion shall prescribe by rule related to the per-
2	formance of its duties.
3	SEC. 7. CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS.
4	The Commission shall consult with the As-
5	sociation of Boxing Commissions—
6	(1) before prescribing any regulation
7	or establishing any standard under the
8	provisions of this Act; and
9	(2) not less than once each year re-
10	garding matters relating to professional
11	boxing.
12	SEC. 8. MISCONDUCT.
13	(a) SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF LI-
14	CENSE OR REGISTRATION.—
15	(1) AUTHORITY.—The Commission may,
16	after notice and opportunity for a hear-
17	ing, suspend or revoke any license issued
18	under this Act if the Commission—
19	(A) finds that the license holder
20	has violated any provision of this Act
21	or a standard prescribed under this
22	Act;
23	(B) reasonably believes that a
24	standard prescribed by the Commis-
25	sion under this Act is not being met.

1	or that bribery, collusion, intentional
2	losing, racketeering, extortion, or the
3	use of unlawful threats, coercion, or
4	intimidation have occurred in con-
5	nection with a license; or
6	(C) finds that the suspension or
7	revocation is in the public interest.
8	(2) PERIOD OF SUSPENSION.—A suspen-
9	sion of a license under this section shall
10	be effective for a period determined ap-
11	propriate by the Commission.
12	(3) PERIOD OF REVOCATION.—In the
13	case of a revocation of the license of a
14	boxer, the revocation shall be for a pe-
15	riod of not less than 1 year.
16	(b) Investigations and Injunctions.—
17	(1) AUTHORITY.—The Commission
18	may—
19	(A) conduct any investigation that
20	it considers necessary to determine
21	whether any person has violated, or
22	is about to violate, any provision of
23	this Act or any regulation prescribed
24	under this Act;

1	(B) require or permit any person
2	to file with it a statement in writing,
3	under oath or otherwise as the Com-
4	mission shall determine, as to all the
5	facts and circumstances concerning
6	the matter to be investigated;
7	(C) in its discretion, publish infor-
8	mation concerning any violations
9	and
10	(D) investigate any facts, condi-
11	tions, practices, or matters to aid in
12	the enforcement of the provisions of
13	this Act, in the prescribing of regula-
14	tions under this Act, or in securing
15	information to serve as a basis for
16	recommending legislation concerning
17	the matters to which this Act relates.
18	(2) Powers. —
19	(A) In general.—For the purpose
20	of any investigation under paragraph
21	(1) or any other proceeding under
22	this Act—
23	(i) any officer designated by
24	the Commission may administer
25	oaths and affirmations subnoons

or otherwise compel the attendance of witnesses, take evidence,
and require the production of any
books, papers, correspondence,
memoranda, or other records the
Commission considers relevant or
material to the inquiry; and

- (ii) the provisions of sections 6002 and 6004 of title 18, United States Code, shall apply.
- (B) WITNESSES AND EVIDENCE.—The attendance of witnesses and the production of any documents under subparagraph (A) may be required from any place in the United States, including Indian land, at any designated place of hearing.

(3) Enforcement of subpoenas.—

(A) CIVIL ACTION.—In case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a subpoena issued to, any person, the Commission may file an action in any district court of the United States within the jurisdiction of which an investigation or proceeding is carried out,

or where that person resides or carries on business, to enforce the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books, papers, correspondence, memorandums, and other records. The court may issue an order requiring the person to appear before the Commission to produce records, if so ordered, or to give testimony concerning the matter under investigation or in question.

- (B) FAILURE TO OBEY.—Any failure to obey an order issued by a court under subparagraph (A) may be punished as contempt of that court.
- (C) PROCESS.—All process in any contempt case under subparagraph (A) may be served in the judicial district in which the person is an inhabitant or in which the person may be found.
- (D) ADMINISTRATIVE SUBPOENAS.—
 The requirements of section 3486 of title 18, United States Code, shall apply to the administration and en-

- forcement of subpoenas under this

 Act.
 - **(4) EVIDENCE** OF **CRIMINAL** MIS-CONDUCT.—No person may be excused from attending and testifying or from books. producing papers, contracts. agreements, and other records and documents before the Commission, in obedience to the subpoena of the Commission, or in any cause or proceeding instituted by the Commission, on the ground that the testimony or evidence, documentary or otherwise, required of that person may tend to incriminate the person or subject the person to a penalty or forfeiture.
 - (5) Injunctive relief.—If the Commission determines that any person is engaged or about to engage in any act or practice that constitutes a violation of any provision of this Act, or of any regulation prescribed under this Act, the Commission may bring an action in the appropriate district court of the United States, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, or the

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- United States courts of any territory or other place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, to enjoin the act or practice, and upon a proper showing, the court shall grant without bond a permanent or temporary injunction or restraining order.
 - (6) Mandamus.—Upon application of the Commission, the district courts of the United States, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, and the United States courts of any territory or other place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, shall have jurisdiction to issue writs of mandamus commanding any person to comply with the provisions of this Act or any order of the Commission.

(c) Intervention in Civil Actions.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission, on behalf of the public interest, may intervene of right as provided under rule 24(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in any civil action relating to professional

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- boxing filed in a district court of the
 United States.
- 3 (2) AMICUS FILING.—The Commission 4 may file a brief in any action filed in a 5 court of the United States on behalf of 6 the public interest in any case relating to
- 7 professional boxing.
- 8 (d) HEARINGS BY COMMISSION.—Hearings
- 9 conducted by the Commission under this Act
- 10 shall be public and may be held before any of-
- 11 ficer of the Commission. The Commission
- 12 shall keep appropriate records of the hear-
- 13 **ings.**
- 14 SEC. 9. NONINTERFERENCE WITH BOXING COMMISSIONS.
- 15 (a) NONINTERFERENCE.—Nothing in this
- 16 Act prohibits any boxing commission from ex-
- 17 ercising any of its powers, duties, or functions
- 18 with respect to the regulation or supervision
- 19 of professional boxing or professional boxing
- 20 matches to the extent not inconsistent with
- 21 the provisions of this Act.
- 22 (b) MINIMUM STANDARDS.—Nothing in this
- 23 Act prohibits any boxing commission from en-
- 24 forcing local standards or requirements that
- 25 exceed the minimum standards or require-

1	ments promulgated by the Commission under
2	this Act.
3	SEC. 10. ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER AGENCIES.
4	Any employee of any executive depart-
5	ment, agency, bureau, board, commission, of-
6	fice, independent establishment, or instru-
7	mentality may be detailed to the Commission,
8	upon the request of the Commission, on a re-
9	imbursable or nonreimbursable basis, with
10	the consent of the appropriate authority hav-
11	ing jurisdiction over the employee. While so
12	detailed, an employee shall continue to re-
13	ceive the compensation provided pursuant to
14	law for the employee's regular position of em-
15	ployment and shall retain, without interrup-
16	tion, the rights and privileges of that employ-
17	ment.
18	SEC. 11. STUDIES.
19	(a) HEALTH AND SAFETY STUDY.—
20	(1) STUDY.—The Commission shall
21	conduct a study on the health and safety
22	aspects of boxing, including an examina-
23	tion of—
24	(A) the risks or serious injury and
25	the nature of notential injuries in-

1	cluding risks particular to boxers of
2	each sex;
3	(B) the long term effect of boxing
4	on the health of boxers;
5	(C) the availability of health in-
6	surance for boxers;
7	(D) the extent to which dif-
8	ferences in equipment effect the risks
9	of potential injury; and
10	(E) the effectiveness of safety
11	standards and regulations.
12	(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year
13	after the date of enactment of this Act,
14	the Commission shall submit a report on
15	the study required by this section to the
16	Committee on Commerce, Science, and
17	Transportation of the Senate and the
18	Committee on Energy and Commerce of
19	the House of Representatives, including
20	recommendations to improve the health
21	and safety aspects of boxing.
22	(b) STUDY ON THE DEFINITION OF Pro-
23	MOTER.—
24	(1) STUDY.—The United States Boxing
25	Commission shall conduct a study on how

- the term "promoter" should be defined for purposes of the United States Boxing Commission Act.
 - (2) HEARINGS.—As part of that study, the Commission shall hold hearings and solicit testimony at those hearings from boxers, managers, promoters, premium, cable, and satellite program service providers, hotels, casinos, resorts, and other commercial establishments that host or sponsor professional boxing matches, and other interested parties with respect to the definition of that term as it is used in the United States Boxing Commission Act.
 - (3) Report.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on the study conducted under subsection (a).
- 24 The report shall—

1	(A) set forth a proposed definition
2	of the term "promoter" for purposes
3	of the United States Boxing Commis-
4	sion Act; and
5	(B) describe the findings, conclu-
6	sions, and rationale of the Commis-
7	sion for the proposed definition, to-
8	gether with any recommendations of
9	the Commission, based on the study.
10	SEC. 12. REPORTS.
11	(a) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 2
12	years after the date of enactment of this Act,
13	and each year thereafter, the Commission
14	shall submit a report on its activities to the
15	Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
16	portation of the Senate and the Committee on
17	Energy and Commerce of the House of Rep-
18	resentatives. The annual report shall in-
19	clude—
20	(1) a detailed discussion of the activi-
21	ties of the Commission for the year cov-
22	ered by the report;
23	(2) an overview of the licensing and
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enforcement activities of the State and

- 1 tribal organization boxing commissions;
- 2 and
- 3 (3) recommendations regarding addi-
- 4 tional persons or entities within the sport
- of boxing over whom to extend the licens-
- 6 ing requirement established by this Act.
- 7 (b) PUBLIC REPORT.—The Commission
- 8 shall annually issue and publicize a report of
- 9 the Commission on the progress made at Fed-
- 10 eral and State levels and on Indian lands in
- 11 the reform of professional boxing, which shall
- 12 include comments on issues of continuing
- 13 concern to the Commission.
- 14 SEC. 13. SUNSET PROVISION.
- 15 This Act shall cease to have effect 12 years
- 16 after the date of enactment of this Act.
- 17 SEC. 14. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
- 18 (a) In General.—There are authorized to
- 19 be appropriated for the Commission for each
- 20 fiscal year such sums as may be necessary for
- 21 the Commission to perform its functions for
- 22 that fiscal year.
- 23 **(b)** RECEIPTS CREDITED AS OFFSETTING COL-
- 24 LECTIONS.—Notwithstanding section 3302 of

1	title 31, United States Code, any fee collected
2	under this Act—
3	(1) shall be credited as offsetting col-
4	lections to the account that finances the
5	activities and services for which the fee
6	is imposed;
7	(2) shall be available for expenditure
8	only to pay the costs of activities and
9	services for which the fee is imposed; and
10	(3) shall remain available until ex
11	pended.

Union Calendar No. 134

109TH CONGRESS H. R. 1065

[Report No. 109-209, Parts I and II]

A BILL

To establish the United States Boxing Commission to protect the general welfare of boxers and to ensure fairness in the sport of professional boxing.

September 30, 2005

Committee on Education and the Workforce discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed